

Comment on the proposed conservation of usage of *Cardium egmontianum* Shuttleworth, 1856 (currently *Trachycardium egmontianum*; Mollusca, Bivalvia) (Case 3341; see BZN 64: 12–14)

Richard C. Willan

*Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, G.P.O. Box 4646,
Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia 0820*

This proposal represents the only pathway to achieve nomenclatural stability and geographical sense in this instance and so I strongly endorse the request to the Commission. The Application could have been bolstered by an historical observation relating to Reeve's *Conchological Iconica*, in which the original error occurred. I have come to appreciate this problem from my own research on marine bivalves. Reeve was so busy at the height of the 'Golden Age' of conchology in the mid-nineteenth century receiving shells from all over the world and publishing attractive monographs for his subscribers on a regular basis that he committed numerous unintentional errors like this one. His illustration of a specimen of *Cardium egmontianum* with the incorrect locality of Mindanao, Philippines, from where two other specimens of a different but somewhat similar, large, brown speckled species of cardiid genuinely originated, was a rather typical result of the frenetic pace at which he must have been working. The late Mr Vidal must have also realised this was the cause of the mistake and had a desire for some nomenclatural stability in a group of marine bivalves where the genera and species are still taxonomically unstable, hence his selection of one of the specimens from the Philippines as the lectotype of *Cardium mindanense*. That selection (Vidal, 1998) should certainly be validated by the Commission as both technically correct and thoroughly justified, whereas the earlier designation by Voskuil & Onverwagt (1992) of another syntype as 'holotype' is invalid under Article 74.5 of the Code.

Comment on the proposed conservation of *Termes serratus* Froggatt, 1898 (currently *Microcerotermes serratus*) and *Termes serrula* Desneux, 1904 (currently *Microcerotermes serrula*) (Insecta, Isoptera, TERMITINAE) (Case 3385; see BZN 64: 83–86)

Yves Roisin and Jacques M. Pasteels

*Behavioural & Evolutionary Ecology – CP 160112, Université Libre de
Bruxelles, Avenue F.D. Roosevelt 50, B – 1050 Brussels, Belgium
(e-mail: yroisin@ulb.ac.be)*

When we discovered the unjustified replacement of *Termes serratus* Haviland and conservation of *Termes serratus* Froggatt by Desneux (1904), we recommended the strict application of the Principle of Priority instead of applying to the Commission to conserve the junior names (Roisin & Pasteels, 2000). To reach this decision, we followed the guidelines of Article 79(c) of the 3rd Edition of the Code (current at the time of submission), stating that a prima facie case that stability is threatened would